

Sammy Sosa is not only a true sports hero but a true humanitarian. Sammy has repeatedly shown that he has not forgotten his country of origin, and I am sure his country will never forget him.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S DOUBLE STANDARD OF FOREIGN POLICY

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concern on the Clinton Administration's double standard of foreign policy application toward Turkey. I fail to understand why the same policy that is now being implemented against the Bosnian Serbs, who are denying basic human rights and imposing death sentences upon hundreds of ethnic Albanian women and children in Kosovo, is not being implemented upon Turkey.

For 14 years, the Turkish military has been conducting an inhumane campaign of ethnic cleansing and oppression on its own Kurdish people in no different a way than the Serbs are. The Turks' war of horror against the Kurds has killed over 30,000 Kurds and has left over two million refugees without homes and lives.

The situations in Kosovo and against the Turkish Kurds are unacceptable and must be dealt with swiftly, so that more innocent people will not die. If the United States military is ready to intervene in Kosovo, then someone could ask are we ready to do the same against Turkey? A double standard foreign policy is not good policy, especially when innocent lives are at stake. I ask that the Administration end this doublespeak, and act now in Turkey.

Mr. Speaker, I also ask that the following letter from the A.H.I. be inserted in the RECORD following my statement.

AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE, INC.,
October 15, 1998.

HON. WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
President of the United States, Washington, DC.

RE: DOUBLE STANDARD ON THE APPLICATION
OF THE RULE OF LAW TO TURKEY

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT. The present crisis in Kosovo impels me to write to you once again on the double standard that underlies the Administration's foreign policy approach to Turkey. At a time when our nation has invoked the threat of military intervention over the application of UN Security Council Resolution 1199 on Serbia, we utterly fail to apply the same standard of the rule of law to Turkey.

The American Hellenic Institute is appalled by and wholly condemns the violence in Kosovo. We welcome the Administration's efforts to address the Kosovo crisis as being in the best traditions of our nation's moral and humanitarian values. These values, however, as also under attack in Turkey where the Turkish military is conducting a ruthless campaign of ethnic cleansing and repression against its own Kurdish citizens. Just as we acted in Kosovo, so our country needs to undertake similar efforts in Turkey in defense of U.S. interest and values.

Turkey's fourteen year war of terror against its 20% Kurdish minority in Turkish Kurdistan is no secret. The Turkish armed forces have killed over 30,000 Kurds and de-

stroyed 3,000 villages resulting in over two million refugees. Ethnic cleansing has taken place on a vastly wider scale than in Kosovo. And yet our government does nothing.

On Bosnia and Kosovo, high officials of our government have repeatedly spoken out in protest. We have mobilized our armed forces. Over Turkey the same officials are conspicuously silent.

If, as demonstrated over the past weeks, we are ready to intervene militarily on behalf of the Kosovo Albanians, we should be ready to apply the same principles on behalf of the Kurds in Turkey. If we do not and instead continue U.S. support for Turkey, then we are turning ourselves into an accessory to Turkey's massive human rights violations in Turkey. This is a stain on U.S. honor.

Mr. President, our country cannot live by double standards. In 1991 the U.S. went to war with Iraq to eject it from Kuwait. What is the difference in principle between the Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait in 1990 and Turkey's invasion and occupation of 37.3% of Cyprus in 1974? There is none. Indeed, the military controlled government of Turkey is in violation of more laws than Saddam Hussein in his invasion of Kuwait.

The Administration's vigorous actions and resolve in Kosovo stand in harsh contrast to its willingness to support Turkey's repression (some would say genocide) against its own Kurdish citizens and to its unwillingness to enforce a series of UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions condemning Turkey's illegal invasion and occupation of Cyprus dating back to 1974. Why is our country so selective in enforcing certain resolutions and disregarding others?

The answer, I regretfully have to conclude, is that the Administration is mesmerized by Turkey. Consider the following recent examples:

When in October 1998 Turkey threatened military action against Syria and mobilized its armed forces on the Syrian border, the Administration did not condemn Turkey's action as a violation of the UN Charter article 2 (4) and a threat to regional stability. Instead it referred once again to the PKK as a "terrorist" organization and called upon Syria to "cease its support of the PKK." In effect, this denies the Kurds the right to autonomy which we are championing for the Kosovo Albanians.

When in August 1998, President Demirel issued a statement claiming unspecified Greek sovereign territories in the Aegean, the Administration made no statement condemning this irresponsible irredentism of Turkey against an American NATO ally.

When in December 1997 the European Union unanimously found itself unable to accept Turkey's application for membership on the deeply seated grounds of Turkey's fundamental lack of normal democratic governance and adverse human rights record, the Administration took Turkey's side.

When in early 1997 the Republic of Cyprus announced its intention to acquire a modest increase in its self-defense capability, the Administration created the S-300 controversy by taking the lead in criticizing Cyprus. It subsequently allowed to go uncontested Turkey's absurd interpretation that this challenged the balance of power in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The sad fact is that the Administration has thrown its lot in with the Turkish military controlled government. We supply them with the arms needed to oppress their own citizens, we take their side against the European Union; we fail to condemn their repeated challenges to international law in the Aegean and over Cyprus; we stand by when Turkey time and time again demonstrates it is the primary source of regional instability.

The explanation AHI is regularly offered for this bizarre policy that so obviously con-

tradicts both American interests and values is that Turkey is a secular Islamic state and that any alternative U.S. approach might risk delivering Turkey into the hands of Islamic fundamentalists.

Mr. President, this analysis is fundamentally erroneous. The true fault line in Turkey is not between secularism and fundamentalism but between military rule and democracy. The Administration's current policy supports the military and ignores democracy. In Iran we found at great cost that this approach did not work. We should not make the same mistake in Turkey.

The Turkish constitution affords the military political powers far exceeding anything that would be acceptable in the U.S. or other normal democracies. Instead of siding with the military and its political and diplomatic puppets, the Administration should support, as does AHI, the brave Turkish citizens within Turkey struggling for human rights and the rule of law.

A guiding principle in foreign affairs for the U.S. should be the words of President Dwight D. Eisenhower in the 1956 Middle East crisis, when he condemned and reversed the invasion of Egypt by Britain, France, and Israel. In a memorable address to the nation on October 31, 1956 Eisenhower said:

"There can be no peace without law. And there can be no law if we invoke one code of international conduct for those who oppose us and another for our friends."

The need for a change in our policy toward Turkey is critical in the interests of the U.S.

Respectfully,

EUGENE T. ROSSIDES.

SENIORS' VIEWS OF SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about issues affecting senior citizens in my district. Recently, I was contacted by several seniors' groups. Tired of broken promises from liberals in Congress and the administration, they have appealed to the rest of us to save Social Security and provide much-needed tax relief.

In a survey taken by the United Seniors Association, respondents expressed grave misgivings about the future of social security. The results of the survey are as follows:

Only 11 percent of respondents believe their Social Security benefits will be safe and available for the rest of their lives.

Sixty-six percent of respondents believe that last year's budget agreement will not actually balance the budget over the next 5 years.

Seventy-two percent know that the Government is spending surplus Social Security funds on other Government programs.

Eighty-four percent do not think that Congress will repay the money owed to the Social Security Trust Fund without legislation requiring them to do so.

Mr. Speaker, these seniors have every reason to doubt the long-term solvency of the Trust Fund. Their benefits and their children and grandchildren's benefits have been imperiled by uncontrolled spending. The national debt currently stands at \$5.4 trillion. Each year deficits continue because there is no Balanced Budget Amendment to ensure responsible policy. As a cosponsor and avid supporter of a